



# COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY

## Public Health Department

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**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

### Tobacco Control Program

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

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### **TOBACCO STING CONDUCTED IN ARROYO GRANDE- 3 of 18 STORES CAUGHT SELLING**

Arroyo Grande, CA- On April 8, 2013, the Arroyo Grande Police Department in cooperation with the San Luis Obispo County Tobacco Control Program, enlisted the help of a local teen who attempted to purchase tobacco at 18 retail locations. **The Tobacco Control Program and the Arroyo Grande Police Department would like to congratulate those stores that refused to sell; however three clerks of the 18 stores did sell tobacco to the teen.** This is a 16.67% illegal sales rate for this compliance check.

During the compliance check the two stores that sold tobacco to the underage teen were:  
Albertson's at 1132 W. Branch St.  
Arroyo Grande Valero at 610 E Grand Ave.  
Chevron at 251 E Grand Ave.

The City of Arroyo Grande adopted a tobacco retail ordinance in 2005, which requires all retailers to obtain a license in order to sell tobacco products. An annual fee is collected and is applied towards the costs associated with administering and enforcing the license. The ordinance includes a series of penalties for the storeowners if their establishment is caught selling tobacco to minors including a possible tobacco license suspension.

In order to help keep tobacco products out of the hands of minors, the Tobacco Control Program will continue to work with the Arroyo Grande Police Department to conduct compliance checks on a regular basis.

Anyone with questions regarding the sale of tobacco products to minors is encouraged to call the Tobacco Control Program at (805) 781-5564

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